

(19) World Intellectual Property
Organization
International Bureau



13 APR 2005

(43) International Publication Date
22 July 2004 (22.07.2004)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 2004/061014 A1

- (51) International Patent Classification⁷: C09C 1/42, D21H 19/40
- (21) International Application Number: PCT/US2003/039883
- (22) International Filing Date: 15 December 2003 (15.12.2003)
- (25) Filing Language: English
- (26) Publication Language: English
- (30) Priority Data: 60/433,501 16 December 2002 (16.12.2002) US
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- (81) Designated States (national): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.
- (84) Designated States (regional): ARIPO patent (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).
- Published:
- with international search report
 - before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of amendments
- For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

(54) Title: FINE PLATY KAOLIN COMPOSITION

(57) Abstract: The present invention relates to a kaolin composition having improved physical properties, for example, for use in the production of paper products. The composition can comprise kaolin having a shape factor of at least about 20. The kaolin can have a particle size distribution such that at least about 94% by weight of the kaolin can have an esd of less than about 2 μ m and/or at least about 80% by weight of the kaolin can have an esd of less than 1 μ m. The amount of the kaolin having an esd of less than about 0.25 μ m can range from about 25% to about 60% by weight. The Hercules viscosity of the kaolin product is less than 4000 rpm at 18 dynes at 63% solids and less than 1500 rpm at 18 dynes at 69% solids when measured using the "A" bob. The present invention also relates to an improved method for making the kaolin product from sedimentary kaolin.

WO 2004/061014 A1